



Exercise Clause and will substantially burden the exercise of his religion in violation of the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000, 42 U.S.C. § 2000cc et seq. *Id.* at ¶2. Specifically, the Complaint alleges that the Defendants refused his request to have his spiritual advisor present in the execution chamber at the time of his execution. *Id.* at ¶3. The Defendants' Answer is due on May 11, 2021.

At the time the Complaint was filed, Mr. Gonzales's execution date was scheduled for April 20, 2021. On April 6, 2021, the 454th Judicial District Court of Medina County, Texas, entered an order modifying his execution date to November 17, 2021. A copy of that order is attached to this advisory.

Respectfully submitted,

JASON D. HAWKINS  
Federal Public Defender

/s/ Jeremy Schepers  
Jeremy Schepers (TX 24084578)  
Supervisor, Capital Habeas Unit  
Office of the Federal Public Defender  
Northern District of Texas  
525 S. Griffin St., Ste. 629  
Dallas, TX 75202  
214-767-2746  
[jeremy\\_schepers@fd.org](mailto:jeremy_schepers@fd.org)

/s/ Steven T. Collis  
Steven T. Collis (TX 24122632)  
Director, Law & Religion Clinic  
University of Texas School of Law  
727 E. Dean Keaton St.  
Austin, TX 78705  
(512) 475-9090  
[Steven.collis@law.utexas.edu](mailto:Steven.collis@law.utexas.edu)

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on April 7, 2021, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court for the United States Court for the Southern District of Texas using the electronic case-filing (ECF) system of the Court, which will serve all registered users in this case.

/s/ Jeremy Schepers  
Jeremy Schepers